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1 August 1949

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MEMORANDUM FOR: [redacted]**SUBJECT:** Logistical support by NME of OPC operations.**REFERENCE:** a. Mr. Hulick's memorandum for the file dated 29 July 1949.

*Office
Hulick
29 July 1949*

1. The reference memorandum which is attached hereto was prepared by Mr. Hulick as a summary of a memorandum from JCS for the Secretary of Defense which was shown to Mr. Hulick last Friday in the Pentagon. This memorandum has been executed in final form and has been delivered to Mr. Halaby for the Secretary of Defense. Mr. Halaby has informed us that he has the impression that OPC may not be entirely happy about the provisions of this memorandum, and that he proposes to withhold submission of the memorandum to the Secretary of Defense until he has received an expression of our views.

2. Will you, therefore, please prepare a concise memorandum for my signature, addressed to Mr. Halaby, and containing our comments. I agree with Mr. Hulick that this memorandum has the earmarks of having been prepared by someone from the Finance and Supply side of the Defense Establishment, as it imposes the very narrowest restrictions upon the furnishing of equipment, supplies, services, and facilities. Under this memorandum as it now stands, it would be impossible for any area of Defense Establishment to furnish anything to OPC free of charge. This aspect of the memorandum appears to be an effort on the part of someone to gain additional funds for the Defense Establishment Committee, and in view of our very small budget, this can hardly be regarded as evidence of a cooperative spirit. Obviously, these remarks are solely for your benefit and should not be reflected in their present form in what you would write. Moreover, I do not think that it would be advisable for us to ask for too much, and rather I think we should avoid a tendency to overload our requests to the point where it appears that we may be seeking to get too much for nothing.

3. I think that it would be best to focus our comments upon subparagraphs b. and d. of the reference memorandum. If we cannot get any military equipment and stock (being on hand and not needed) without reimbursement, then we should not have to pay the full price. As regards subparagraph d, I think we should make a strong

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argument for the free transportation of personnel, supplies and equipment free of charge to OPC ---in all cases where such transportation and/or storage can be provided without appreciable additional expense to the services; for example, we ought to be able to place our personnel, supplies and equipment aboard flights of aircraft and voyages of vessels, etc., which are scheduled to go forward in any case, without being charged for such transportation as though OPC was an ordinary customer of a common carrier for hire. If a special flight or special voyage had to be set up for our purposes, that would be another matter and perhaps we should bear at least the bulk of the cost. Under the language of memorandum as it now stands, it would be impossible for any representative of the services concerned to squeeze in some of our traffic without requiring reimbursement therefor.

4. I am somewhat concerned about the restrictive language contained in the next to the last sentence of the introductory portion of paragraph 1 of the reference memorandum. This provides that "all covert operations planned and conducted by OPC in time of peace must be consistent with JCS war plans and U.S. military policy, and will not be undertaken if disapproved by the NME". A strict interpretation of this language would mean that we could do nothing whatever without a prior clearance from the National Military Establishment, and I do not believe that this was intended by the National Security Council or that it would correspond with the views of either the Department of State or Admiral Sorensen, who continuously emphasizes the fact that our peace-time type operations are primarily the responsibility of the State Department. Moreover, in the absence of an organization within the Defense Establishment upon which we can rely for prompt and adequate clearances, there is no one point from which we can seek such clearances in a manner that would be satisfactory to either OPC or the Defense Establishment. The memorandum recommends that [redacted] be designated to handle for the NME the OPC logistical matters, but these matters are quite different from the policy clearances contemplated in the language above quoted. This is a difficult point from which to comment without running the risk of antagonizing persons in the Defense Establishment who may be inclined to misunderstand the significance of our concern. I have no specific guidance to give you in this connection at the moment, and I believe that it may be necessary for us to talk to various people in the Defense and State Departments about this rather than to submit our views in writing.

F.G.W.

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